

## Prodigy Condensable Restorative System (Project 99-25) (01/00)

According to its manufacturer, Prodigy Condensable is a resin composite suitable for use as a directly-placed packable restorative. It is one of several recently-introduced resin composites that are described by their manufacturers as "condensable" or "packable." These products purportedly exhibit resistance to condensation because they are more highly filled than standard resin composites and often have particles that have been modified in shape or texture.

Kerr claims that Prodigy Condensable's composition, which is based on that of Herculite XRV and Prodigy, results in a low polymerization shrinkage of only 1.8%. Because it shrinks so little, Kerr maintains that the product can be placed in a thickness of up to 5 mm before being light activated and still produce a gap-free margin. According to Kerr, Prodigy Condensable is filled to 80% by weight (61.7% by volume) with a blend of fumed silica and barium aluminoborosilicate glasses.



No list of specific clinical indications is provided in either the product's instructions or promotional brochure. Although Prodigy Condensable is available in seven shades indexed to the Vita shade guide (and an Extra Light shade), the kit evaluated by DIS had five shades (A1, A2, A3, B1, C1). The resin is supplied in unit-dose (Unidose) capsules and is provided with Kerr's "one-component" bonding agent, OptiBond Solo. The product and accessories are packaged in the typical Kerr "tackle box" plastic case with a handle for easy portability. Product item numbers for ordering refills are posted on the inside cover of the case. All components in the kit (resin composite, etchant, OptiGuard Sealant) are clearly identified and have expiration dates and lot numbers stamped on them. The OptiBond Solo bonding agent is provided in a separate box. A plastic, graphics-containing instruction card is also included.

### Manufacturer:

Kerr Corporation  
1717 W. Collins Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867-9880  
(800) 537-7123  
(714) 516-7400  
(714) 516-7633 FAX  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)

### Suggested Retail Price:

\$231.00 Prodigy Condensable Restorative System (order number 29350) contains:  
-ten Unidose Tips each of shades A1, A2, A3, B1, C1 (three other shades are sold separately)  
-50 pouches of OptiBond Solo  
-one 5-mL bottle of OptiGuard Surface Sealant  
-two 3-g syringes of 37.5% phosphoric acid etchant  
-20 syringe tips  
-50 plastic applicators  
-one Unidose composite gun

### Government Price:

\$121.13 Prodigy Condensable Restorative System (contents and order number as listed above)

### ADVANTAGES:

- + Has thicker consistency than standard resin composites which makes it easier to achieve acceptable interproximal contacts.
- + Resists slumping after placement.
- + Adequate working time; not overly sensitive to ambient light.

- + Is sufficiently radiopaque to ensure easy detection on a radiograph.
- + One of the less expensive packable composites.
- + Packaged in a compact, plastic case with a handle for easy portability.
- + Supplied with easy-to-use, unit-dose bonding agent (OptiBond Solo).
- + Expiration dates and lot numbers are provided for all items in kit.

#### **DISADVANTAGES:**

- Is not adequately polymerized when placed in bulk (i.e., a 5-mm thickness).
- Users may find that resin's thicker consistency makes it difficult to express from the capsules.
- Is somewhat tacky; sticks to placement instruments.
- Overall esthetics slightly less favorable than other resin composites evaluated by DIS.
- Not as hard as some of the packable resin composites tested (eg, P60 [3M], ALERT [Jeneric/Pentron], SureFil [Dentsply]).
- More expensive than several popular, standard resin composites.
- Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) not included in kit.

#### **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:**

Prodigy Condensable was somewhat difficult to dispense and place. A majority of users reported that it was tacky and stuck to placement instruments. Some clinicians may find that its higher viscosity makes it difficult to express from the Unidose capsules. The higher viscosity, however, does make it easier for users to achieve acceptable interproximal contacts than with standard resin composites. Clinicians must determine if this particular feature justifies the increased cost of Prodigy Condensable compared to the popular hybrid products Herculite XRV, Prodigy, and Spectrum TPH. Users reported that the overall esthetics of Prodigy Condensable, while acceptable, were not as good as those of other resin composites they had used. Importantly, laboratory testing found that this product **can not** be adequately polymerized by light exposure if placed in a 5-mm thickness as claimed by Kerr. In summary, the product appears to offer few advantages compared to traditional resin composites already available. **Prodigy Condensable** is rated **Marginal** for use by the federal dental services.